

The Shepherd's Voice



"I AM JESUS' LITTLE LAMB"

I am Jesus' little lamb, ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me;
Knows my needs and well provides me;
Loves me everyday the same, Even calls me by my name!

The fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday (one of my favorite Sunday's of the church year)! We are reminded that Jesus is our Good Shepherd who guides us, knows our needs, provides for us, never stops loving us, and calls us by our name! Our Good Shepherd cares for us and loves us no matter what! I am reminded of various pictures of Jesus carrying a lamb in His arms, usually the lamb is white. One picture stands out in my mind of Jesus holding a young black lamb. That painting was done by an inmate who was serving a life sentence for a crime he had committed. The inmate likely saw himself as an outcast, a black sheep of his family and even perhaps a black sheep of society. While in prison, Jesus came to this prisoner through His Word and the inmate realized that Jesus loved the black sheep which he had become. In fact each one of us can visualize ourselves as the black sheep of society because of our sins, our lies, our arguments, our greed, our selfish pride, our lusts, our coveting desires, our failure to love God and our neighbor.

Take a deeper look at this picture. In order for this Good Shepherd to save us poor miserable sheep and hold us in his bosom, He became one as well. The Shepherd became a lamb! He took upon Himself all that is dark, corrupt, sinful, black, and literally bore that, carried that to His death on a cross! This Lamb who was slain is raised from death and the grave by His Father and shepherds us, cares for us, loves us no matter what! The Lamb that was slain and the Good Shepherd are one and the same, saving us for all eternity! Jesus is our Good Shepherd and we are the sheep of His pasture! Halleluiah! Jesus says, **"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep...I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know Me, just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep."** (John 10:11, 14-15)

In closing, I just want to remind all of you to join in all the festivities of the 25th Anniversary of Shepherd of Peace congregation. The Anniversary service will be held on Sunday, April 24th at 10:00 am. As part of this special service Sarah Grace Wray, daughter of Tony and Tracy Wray, will be confirmed in the faith and will receive the Sacrament of the Altar for the first time! Come celebrate with her and with each other the new life we share as Jesus' little lambs! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Halleluiah!

Rev. Timothy J. Henning, Vacancy Pastor

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Special points of interest:

- 25th Anniversary Celebration on April 24th. Worship begins at 10am with Communion and Confirmation. Directly followed with the luncheon.
- Deadline to sign up for Thrivent Day at the Park is April 29th.
- VBS/Relay for Life events

Are you Missed???

I recently had a conversation with an individual that had not been to church in a while due to some physical limitations and I was expressing how nice it was to see him again. During our conversation, he said it was good to be back, but he wasn't sure if he was even missed while he was gone. That got me thinking about our congregation and what happens when any of us miss church for one or many Sundays. The best way I can describe it is using a personal experience.

Every year for Christmas, my family gathers together (usually in North Dakota, Iowa, or Nebraska) to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Regardless of where we are, the house is typically busting at the seams with uncles, aunts, cousins, grandparents, parents, children, and grandchildren. Like any normal family, we usually eat, sing songs, eat, go to church, eat, play games, eat, spend time on our various technological devices, and did I mention we eat ☺. Amidst all the hustle, bustle, laughter, seasonal joy, love, and happiness, there is always a twinge of sadness as my brother and his family are never able to join us for the festivities.

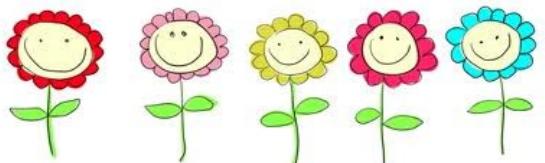
You see my brother works for UPS in Nashville, TN. As I am sure you know, Christmas is the busiest time of year for UPS and its employees. The demanding schedule does not allow for vacation and travel over the holidays. The whole family knows that my brother and his family would rather be with us and we wish that they could, but we also know that it is important for him to make a living to support his family. We understand and accept that they cannot attend as we carry on with our celebration, but that does not mean that we do not miss them.

The same goes for church on a weekly basis. We all know that there are multiple reasons that we miss church (sickness, physical limitations, travel, hurt feelings, other commitments, etc.). Those in attendance understand, and accept that, as they carry on with the celebration through song, fellowship, communion, prayer, scripture, and praise to our Savior. However, that does not mean that the absent brothers and sisters in Christ are not missed. Please know that if you miss church for any reason (regardless of the duration), YOU ARE MISSED!!!!

Michael Flakoll
On behalf of the BoD

April Service Volunteers

Lay Minister	Steve McDonald
Acolyte	Gregory Febock
Ushers	T. Wray & L. Quimby
Lector	Ken Quimby
Communion Prep	J. Shertzer & K. Johnston
Communion Assistant	Mark Filter



The shopping cart in the Narthex has been coming in useful for local children in need of food. We thank you for those donations and ask that you continue to give as you can!



Church Mice



Family Sundays at Dickey-Stephens Park

Bring your church bulletin to Dickey-Stephens Park on the following Sunday dates and your family (2 adults and up to 4 kids 14 & under) will be admitted for \$10!

- Sunday, April 10th vs. Frisco RoughRiders @ 6:10 pm
- Sunday, April 24th vs. Springfield Cardinals @ 2:10 pm
- Sunday, May 8th vs. Northwest Arkansas Naturals @ 2:10 pm
- Sunday, May 22nd vs. Springfield Cardinals @ 2:10 pm
- Sunday, June 5th vs. San Antonio Missions @ 5:30 pm
- Sunday June 12th vs. Northwest Arkansas Naturals @ 2:10 pm

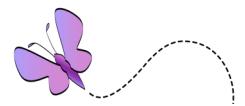
More dates follow and are posted on the bulletin board outside the Pastor's office!



Baseball



APRIL 2016



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	4 Quilters, 10a	5 Study, 6:15p	6 Choir, 7p	7 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30p	8	9
10 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	11 Quilters, 10a	12 Study, 6:15p	13	14 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30p	15	16
17 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	18 Quilters, 10a	19 Study, 6:15p	20 Choir, 7p	21 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30p	22 Cycle /Serve Peace Lutheran 3:45pm	23
24 Worship, 10a Anniversary Cele- bration/ Confirmation, 11:30	25 Quilters, 10a	26 Study, 6:15p	27	28 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30p	29	30

April Events

- * Sundays, 9:00am, Worship
- * Sundays, 10:15am, Family Bible Hour
- * Mondays, 10am-2pm, Quilters
- * Tuesdays, 6:30pm, Bible Study
- * Wednesdays, April 1 & 15, 7pm, Choir Practice
- * Thursdays, 10:30am, Bible Study
- * Thursdays, 6pm, Mid-Week Teens
- * Saturday April 23, 5:30 Casa Mexicana
- * Sunday April 24, 10:00am 25th Anniversary Ser-
vice/Confirmation
- * Sunday April 24, 12:00pm 25th Anniversary
Luncheon Celebration

Special Days in April

- 4-8 Geoffrey Flemmons (B,20)
4-9 Evan McDonald (B,14)
4-16 Tom Wray (B)
4-18 Keeley Ausburn (B,14)
4-22 Julie Andrus (B)
Adrianna Womack (B,5)
4-27 Carol Mayerhoff (B)
4-29 Ashley Davenport (B)



**BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY**

25th Anniversary Committee Update

Invitations for Shepherd of Peace 25th anniversary celebration were sent to Charter and former members and friends that we had contact information for and or could locate. We're sure some previous members were overlooked so please reach out to others and extend this invitation. Encourage them to attend.

Saturday, April 23 we're inviting everyone to join us on the patio at Casa Mexicana, 13120 Crystal Hill Road, across from Walmart, to enjoy a casual evening to visit with old friends, past members and those from other congregations. It will begin at 5:30pm to allow for little people bed times and you're welcome to stay until Casa Mexicana closes. This family friendly Mexican restaurant offers a varied menu including burgers, chicken tenders, fries, etc. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are available also. Prices are moderate and allow for most budgets.

Anniversary Sunday, April 25, worship service is at 10am. We will celebrate Holy Communion as well as confirmation of Sarah Wray. Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service and a brief picture social.

To properly plan for lunch, we would like Shepherd of Peace members and friends to [RSVP by Sunday, April 17th](#). You can RSVP on the back of your weekly Connection Card by identifying how many of your family will be attending. You may also RSVP by calling Shepherd of Peace office (501-851-4546) or on the '25th Anniversary' tab on www.shepeace.com.

25th Anniversary



SOP is looking for part-time, full-time, new or experienced VOLUNTEERS for VBS! No amount of help is too much + it's a fun time for everyone, including adults. VBS is scheduled for the evening of June 23 & 24 & the morning of Sat. June 25. Please let Laura Quimby know if you're available to help, in any way.



We'd like to order t-shirts for use during VBS and promoting VBS at Relay for Life on Friday, May 6. Plan that a t-shirt will be \$10, with 2XL and up being a few \$ higher. We can order children & youth sizes as well as long sleeve if you're interested. Please let Carol Smith or Laura Quimby know what size you'd like us to order for you. Cute design! This order will be placed on Tuesday, April 5th so don't delay.



Travelers Game and Picnic Friday May 6th

The Heartland AR Chapter of Thrivent Financial will again sponsor a Travelers game and picnic at Dickey Stevens Park. It is scheduled for Friday, May 6th. Reservations must be made by April 29th. The event includes an all you can eat picnic and tickets to the Travelers and Tulsa Drillers ballgame. Menu consists of BBQ sandwiches, burgers, hot dogs, bratwurst, sausages and all the trimmings. There is no cost for the tickets and you don't have to be a Thrivent member to attend, but [you do need to reserve your tickets](#). Contact Ed Helmstetter at 851-8370 (leave a message if no one answers) or email ed.helmstetter@sbcglobal.net. You can also request tickets for the event by contacting KARL ZEH at (501) 835-2029 or karlzeh@gmail.com.
Ed Helmstetter
Thrivent Congregational Coordinator

